

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

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MAXWELL KADEL, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

vs. Case No. 1:19-cv-272-LCB-LPA

DALE FOLWELL, in his official  
capacity as State Treasurer of  
North Carolina, et al.,

Defendants.

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Video Deposition of  
STEPHEN B. LEVINE, M.D.

September 10, 2021  
9:05 a.m.

Taken at:  
Veritext Legal Solutions  
1100 Superior Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio

Tracy Morse, RPR

1 substance abuse, they didn't distinguish  
2 between trans and -- statistically, but other  
3 studies have indicated that everything else,  
4 like suicide in the last thirty days, thinking  
5 about suicide in the last thirty days, making a  
6 suicide attempt, substance abuse, it's all  
7 higher in the trans community.

8 It's not low in sexual minority  
9 communities. Either is domestic violence in  
10 either of those communities, but it's much less  
11 in the trans -- in the lesbian and gay  
12 community than it is in the straight -- in the  
13 trans community. And it's even less in the  
14 straight community, but obviously we have these  
15 same problems in the straight community, the  
16 cis gender community.

17 Q. Return to the question. Do you  
18 consider surgery for the treatment of gender  
19 dysphoria to be experimental?

20 MR. CHARLES: I object to form.

21 A. I have the same answer that I had  
22 to the hormonal question and for the same  
23 reasons.

24 Q. Do all transgender people suffer  
25 from a gender dysphoria?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Are there any studies or  
3 scientifically valid research that indicates  
4 what percentage of transgender people suffer  
5 from gender dysphoria?

6 MR. CHARLES: Object to form.

7 A. What percentage of transgender  
8 people suffer from gender dysphoria? I don't  
9 think -- I can't recall a study that asks that  
10 question and use -- and had numbers to explain  
11 the answer. People like myself get to see  
12 individuals who are transgender but not  
13 dysphoric or who are dysphoric but not  
14 transgender.

15 Q. That was going to be my followup  
16 question. Are there people who are dysphoric  
17 who are not transgender?

18 A. Oh, yes. Oh, yes. Many years ago,  
19 before I ever got involved with any lawyer  
20 about these issues, I remember recommending to  
21 a group of alcohol specialists that they ought  
22 to look at the gender identity -- they ought to  
23 ask questions about the sexual identity of the  
24 people being treated for substance abuse and  
25 alcoholism. Because in my limited clinical

1 experience, I've run into -- I keep running  
2 into people who presented with substance abuse  
3 and really dangerous degrees of substance abuse  
4 that would get them hospitalized.

5 And then when I talked to them, they tell  
6 me stories about their hidden gender dysphoria  
7 or their struggles about -- let me just take a  
8 man, for example -- the struggles about the  
9 sense that they have that they're feminine and  
10 they can't -- they have feminine interests,  
11 they have feminine interests but social -- and  
12 they have a sense of themselves as more  
13 feminine than masculine and yet they are too  
14 afraid to show it and then they drink  
15 themselves into hepatitis or whatever.

16 Q. But you would not consider those  
17 individuals to be transgender?

18 A. Well, they don't call themselves  
19 transgender. They present themselves as cis  
20 gender people.

21 MR. KNEPPER: That's all I have.  
22 Carl, do you have any follow up?

23 MR. CHARLES: What time is your  
24 flight?

25 MR. KNEPPER: 7:15.